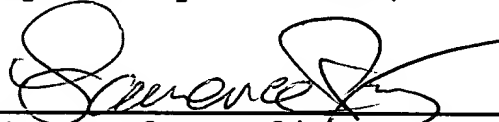


In response, Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the invention of Group II, namely Claims 2-17, with traverse. That is, while it is understood that particular DNA sequences are generally patentable over prior art disclosure of protein sequences (In re Deuel), it is well-understood that if the DNA of claim 2 is patentable, the protein of claim 1 must be as well.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney for Applicants  
Lawrence S. Perry  
Registration No. 31,865

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

LSP\ac

NY\_MAIN 44942 v 1